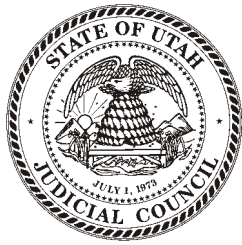


## ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS

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## MEDIA ADVISORY



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Chief Justice, Utah Supreme Court

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**March 31, 2006**

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### **UTAH STATE COURTS AND DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS TEAM UP TO OFFER A VICTIM OFFENDER DIALOGUE PROGRAM**

- WHAT:**        The Utah State Courts and the Department of Corrections are joining forces to kick off a Victim Offender Dialogue Program. The program is for victims of serious and violent crimes committed by an adult offender who is currently incarcerated in a Utah correctional facility. Historically, victims of crime have been left out of the justice process and have not been afforded the same rights as offenders. As a result, many victims are left with unanswered questions.
- WHEN:**        A two-day mediator training is planned for April 3 and 4, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Media are welcome to attend at any time to observe the training. Individual interviews with individual speakers will be available at noon on both days. A documentary that provides a good overview of this type program will be shown on Monday at 12:30 p.m.
- WHERE:**        Scott M. Matheson Courthouse, 450 South State, Conference Room A on the first floor. Enter through suite W19.
- WHO:**         Experts from Pennsylvania are presenting at the training session. Pennsylvania has had a Victim-Offender Dialogue Program in place since 1999. Lorraine Stutzman-Amstutz, director of the Mennonite Central Committee, Office

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on Crime and Justice; Kathy Buckley, director of Victim Services, Office of the Victim Advocate in the Pennsylvania Dept. of Corrections; Kathy Elton, director, Utah State Courts ADR and Mediation Program; Sharon Daurelle, program administrator, Dept. of Corrections Office of Victim Services.

**TOPICS:** Skills and information needed to facilitate dialogue between victims and offenders who have been involved in a serious and/or violent crime.

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